



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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To: CDD District Manager, and all Field Office Managers
(*Attention – District/Regional and Field Office FMO's*)

From: State Director

Subject: Field Office Involvement in Community Wildfire Protection Planning

Program Area: Fire Management

Over the past five years collaborative and community supported wildfire protection planning has been a priority in California. In 2004 a national handbook for preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) was developed to provide consistent direction and identify partner roles and responsibilities. Some communities have drafted or finalized their CWPPs, while others are not aware or involved in the process. It is our responsibility, and to our funding benefit, to work with our wildland urban interface communities (Communities At-Risk) to make sure that a CWPP is in place and that our federal projects are incorporated. By 2007 BLM fuels projects (wildland urban interface) and grant funded fuels projects identified in a CWPP will receive priority funding.

It is our strong recommendation that you identify your Communities At-Risk and local partners to determine their CWPP status and identify options for incorporating BLM fuels projects into CWPPs. There is national and state guidance available on the internet, and additional assistance and guidance may be provided upon request to your state office program leads. For current CWPP guidance in California see the California Fire Alliance website (<http://www.cafirealliance.org/cwpp/>). The attachment *Federal Involvement in Community Wildfire Protection Planning In California* outlines the pertinent components of a CWPP and recommends various levels of federal involvement and prioritization.

In the 2006 fiscal year the program will be moving forward and any add-on fuels funding, not currently identified for projects, will be prioritized by projects identified within a CWPP. Please contact the BLM State Fuels Specialist, Craig Barnes, at 916-978-4433 for more information.

Signed by:
Karen Barnette
Acting State Director

Authenticated by:
Richard A. Erickson
Records Management

Attachment – Federal Involvement in Community Wildfire Protection Planning in California (4 pgs)